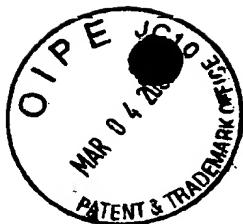


0010-1045-0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :

HIROSHI IZUI ET AL : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

SERIAL NO. 09/419,611 :

FILED: OCTOBER 18, 1999 : EXAMINER: TUNG

FOR: L-GLUTAMIC ACID PRODUCING:
BACTERIUM AND PROCESS FOR
PRODUCING L-GLUTAMIC ACID

RECEIVED

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MAR 14 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated December 4, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the attached marked-up copy to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A microorganism belonging to enterobacteria and having L-glutamic acid productivity, into which a DNA encoding a citrate synthase derived from a coryneform bacterium is introduced.

11. (Amended) A process for producing L-glutamic acid comprising isolating a DNA encoding a coryneform bacterium citrate synthase by amplifying the DNA with oligonucleotide primers prepared based on the nucleotide sequence of a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* citrate synthase gene;

transforming a enterobacteria with said isolated DNA encoding a citrate synthase;